

OLD STATE HOUSE BELL RINGS JOY

Great, Noisy Throng at Independence Square Cheers Each Stroke

SOUNDS 15 MINUTES

Thousands Jam Park and March Around Yelling and Blowing Horns

The only calm individual in the neighborhood of Independence Hall today is General Washington.

With stately grace he stands under Old Glory and the Allied flags flying from the windows of the stately building, but with a smile on his face on the enthusiastic crowd.

The Father of His Country knew from the first how this war was going to turn out; from the superior knowledge of the Great Britain he knew that the Allies could not only win, but they could also democracy for the world; so there is no reason for him being excited.

But he makes no protest at the excitement of his countrymen. That is justified by the many news from overseas. Every succeeding bulletin pasted on the windows of the Public Ledger building is graced with cheers that rise above din of the horns, the ringing of the vespers and the clangor of the bells.

The streets are in carres of color, for almost every individual carries an American flag. If a man has a nickel in his pocket there is no excuse for not having one. The vendors—dozens of them—on the square—insist on it. "Get a flag and show your Americanism," they shout. And the people are more than willing to show their colors.

Crowd Increases Hourly

The crowd at Independence Hall grew to immense proportions as the hours passed. The news got around that Mayor Smith would be there at 10 o'clock, as soon as he could reach Philadelphia.

Captain of Police Teague, with 220 big reserves, arrived early to keep order at the historic building. A broad space and the two flights of the entrance and back stairs from the entrance.

The crowd waited patiently, playing itself happily and applauding the music of the band with shouts and hand clapping. An enterprising street vendor appeared with little red, white and blue parades, and these were bought eagerly. Flags of all the Allied nations added to the color of the scene. Even the green and gold banner of Old Erin was in evidence.

The police band was the chief feature while the crowd waited. Mayor Smith's coming. Lieutenant Kiefer, leader of the band, stirred the crowd with his own march, "The Redemption of Alabamians." Then he had them howling with "The Star Spangled Banner," the effective piece in which the police bandshorn showed war whoops, and Tommie Latte the drummer did a war dance as he banged his snare drum. So there would be no mistaking the fact that he was an Indian. He had a bunch of execrable feathers from his cap to enhance his Indian.

Another Appulsive Number

Another much appreciated number on the police band's program was a parody on "Katie" with a chorus which the Queen sang with much merriment.

*Katzen-Katzen,
Bretzli-Katzen,
Kreuzli-Katzen,
Kreuzli-Katzen,
Kreuzli-Katzen,
Kreuzli-Katzen,
Kreuzli-Katzen,
Kreuzli-Katzen,*

While the crowd waited no one was allowed in the old building. Shortly after 10 o'clock came word that the Mayor would not be present, and Captain Teague announced this to the crowd.

When the Police Band and the reserves, with the mounted traffic men, marched away after this announcement, the hall was thrown open to the crowd, and the scenes of last Thursday were repeated, as hundreds of persons swarmed in to see, touch or even kiss the old liberty Bell.

March Through Streets

Hundreds of boys and girls in uniform, regularly march up and down the street shouting, laughing and tooting horns. Some of the girls, with their mothers, were dressed in uniforms decked out in stars.

In the early morning hours the police gathered at Independence Hall, and a waiting crowd, as distinguished from the more strenuous marchers, gathered around the building. The police of the mounted force stood by their posts, the horses with the drivers off to take their stations. But the police band remained and a crowd with them knowing that there would be a formal demonstration by and by.

Within a few minutes after the blowing of whistles in all parts of the city and numerous other places, the German was to be found an enthusiastic citizen carrying a big bar, dashed to the door of Independence Hall and began an incessant pounding.

"Ring the bell! The war's over," he shouted. All the white pounding and ringing at the big entrance.

Started Gathering

Excitement started the crowd gathering. Men and women, with flags and the horns, and shouting at the top of their voices, crowded around the old building and about the square, with a persistent shouting of "Ring the bell!"

The keeper of the old building finally was awakened and he told the crowd that he couldn't ring until he had his official word to do so from Mayor Smith.

"Let's get the Mayor," shouted the crowd. And the crowd, which had all the while been getting larger and louder, rushed its way into the Enviro Public Ledger office.

Get the Mayor! They Shout

"Get the Mayor!" it shouted. "Tell him to ring the old bell."

Mayor Smith is an old Atlantic City man and a telephone was put through to him. He could not be



GIRL RINGS BELL IN STATE HOUSE

Sylvia G. Broom, War Worker in Uniform, Honors Soldier-Brother

FIRST TIME IN HISTORY

Woman Never Pulled Rope Before—Dead Belgian Hero's Brother Adds Strokes

A girl joined the throng at 10:00 in Independence Hall this morning—the first time it had ever been done to a woman.

Miss Sylvia G. Broom, 20, North Thirteenth street, obtained the permission to pull the bell's rope as she does start striking it each time. As the first stroke sounded she took the mace and pulled furiously for fifteen minutes. She gave one especially hard pull at the last for her brother, Sam, who is a soldier in France.

When she finished, Joseph Puthmartin, a Belgian who has lost a brother in the war, pulled a few more strokes. Furthermore, an assistant to Fred M. McElroy, engineer of the building.

Miss Broom was among the 100,000 celebrants at the Bell this morning, the first time it had ever been done to a woman.

The crowd edged its way through the building, and then marched out again. Soon the bell at Independence Hall tolled out 6 o'clock. There was no stopping the bell then. It continued to ring, and it rang powerfully for fifteen minutes.

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